

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 4-9 have been amended. Claims 1-9 are pending and under consideration. Support for the amendments to claims 1 and 4-9 may be found in the claims as filed originally. Reconsideration is requested based on the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Interview Summary

The Applicants submit the following summary of the interview that took place September 21, 2005 between the undersigned representative of the Applicants and the Examiner.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the many courtesies extended to the undersigned representative of the Applicants during the interview that took place September 21, 2005.

Among the issues discussed during that interview were claims 1-9 and U.S. Patents Nos. 6,192,396 to Kohler (hereinafter "Kohler"), and 6,154,757 to Krause et al., (hereinafter "Krause"). The Examiner offered the opinion that the claims would be distinguished over the cited references if they recited "transmitting . . . all of the transmission information to all respective receivers." Claims 1 and 4-9 have consequently been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Claims 1-9 are consequently believed to be in condition for allowance.

Although the Applicants appreciate the Examiner's suggestions, the Applicants continue to believe that the claims were allowable in the absence of the amendments, as discussed more fully below. The claims are being amended, rather, in the interest of compact prosecution only, consistent with the Patent Business Goals, and *not for any reason of patentability*.

Response to Arguments:

The Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the consideration given to their arguments. The Office Action asserts that Kohler sends an entire email with different sections highlighted for different recipients to all recipients. The Office Action goes on to assert that the features described by the Applicants are available without modification with Kohler. This interpretation of the Kohler reference is submitted to be incorrect.

Kohler, rather, is describing highlighting during a review of the email by the *sender* before the message is sent at column 7, lines 50-58, not highlighted sections associated with different recipients in a email that has been *received*. In particular, Kohler describes,

"In the preferred embodiment, highlighting such as by color-coding also is used to indicate portions of the message intended for different categories of recipients.

For example, black text in message text area 51 is intended for all recipients, blue text is intended for "To:" recipients, green text is intended for "cc:" recipients, and red text is intended for "bcc:" recipients. In addition, recipients for text that is in focus can be color-coded or otherwise highlighted in list boxes 47 through 49."

Thus, in Kohler, highlighting or color-coding is used to indicate portions of the message *intended* for different categories of recipients, i.e. to verify that the appropriate section of the message is designated for delivery to the proper recipient. The recipients themselves will never see this highlighting; it is strictly a tool for the user to make sure that the right sections of the email go to the right designees.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 1, 2, and 4-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Kohler. The rejection is traversed. Reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Claims 1 and 4-9 recited, substantially:

"transmitting the E-mail information including all of the transmission information to respective receivers;"

Kohler neither teaches, discloses, nor suggests transmitting the E-mail information including all of the transmission information to respective receivers, as recited substantially in claims 1 and 4-9. As Kohler, rather, describes at column 9, lines 10-16,

Text lines 85 and 86 are highlighted, in the illustrated embodiment by underlining, to indicate that these text lines were not received by all the recipients listed in message information area 81. It should be noted that text designated for recipient "President" in FIG. 6 is not shown in FIG. 8, because this text was not intended for receipt by "Manager".

Thus, in Kohler, underlining is used to highlight parts of the message that were *not* sent to all recipients. The highlighting of text lines 85 and 86 indicates that all the recipients listed in message information did *not* receive text lines 85 and 86. Text lines 85 and 86 were not received by all the recipients because they were not sent to all the recipients. Thus, in Kohler, highlighting in a received message indicates, by definition, that the entire message, with highlighting, was not transmitted to all receivers. This is to be contrasted with claims 1 and 4-9, which recited substantially,

"transmitting the E-mail information including all of the transmission information to respective receivers."

Indeed, further down column 9, at lines 17-32, Kohler describes why that is,

If the user, in this case "Manager", desires to see who else received the highlighted text, "Manager" places the text in focus and then calls up a list of the recipients for that text. For example, the user can position cursor 53 on the highlighted text and can left-click with pointing device 14 to call up focus indicator 54. The user can then right-click with pointing device 14 to call up a list of recipients. In the preferred embodiment, the list is in a pop-up window such as pop-window 88. The pop-up window includes individual section 89 and category section 90. A check mark appears beside the recipients and the categories who have received the text in focus. Again, gray check marks (or other special indicators) optionally can be used to indicate that part but not all of a category has been designated as an intended recipient.

Thus, the highlights in Kohler are only for a "Manager" to see who else received, and by implication who did not receive, the highlighted text. This is to be contrasted with claims 1 and 4-9, which recited substantially,

"transmitting the E-mail information including all of the transmission information to respective receivers."

Finally, as described by Kohler at column 9, lines 41-43,

Of course, when the message is viewed in the as-received mode, only those parts of the message received by both the user and the identified recipient(s) are displayed.

Thus, in Kohler, only those parts of the message received by, and hence transmitted to, *both* the user and the identified recipient(s) are displayed. This is to be contrasted with claims 1 and 4-9, which recited substantially,

"transmitting the E-mail information including all of the transmission information to respective receivers."

Claims 1 and 4-9 are submitted to have been allowable, even in the absence of the above amendments. Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and adds further distinguishing elements. Claim 2 is thus also submitted to have been allowable, even in the absence of the above amendments.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kohler in view of Krause. The rejection is traversed. Reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Claim 3 depends from claim 1 and adds further distinguishing elements. Kohler neither teaches, discloses, nor suggests transmitting the E-mail information including all of the transmission information to respective receivers, as discussed above with respect to the

rejection of claims 1 and 4-9. Krause, for its part, cannot make up for the deficiencies of Kohler with respect to the claim 3. Claim 3 is thus also submitted to have been allowable, even in the absence of the above amendments, for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to the rejection of claims 1 and 4-9.

Conclusion:

Accordingly, in view of the reasons given above, it is submitted that all of claims 1-9 are allowable over the cited references. There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

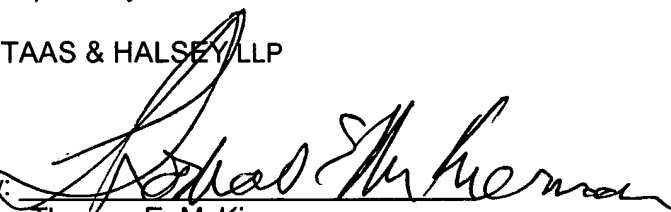
Respectfully submitted,

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